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PHOTO COURTESY OFFICE OF GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

UMCP President Dan Mote, Governor Martin O'Malley, and Secretary of Higher Education James Lyons answered questions at UMD, where they discussed their plans to improve the quality of higher education in the state.

O'Malley Visits College Park, Speaks on Importance of Higher Education

Panel Focuses on Lowering the Cost of Higher Education, Sweetening Job Prospects for Graduates

Courtesy OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

(ANNAPOLIS, MD) — On Thursday, May 3, Governor Martin O'Malley met with student leaders at the

University of Maryland, College Park, to discuss ways to make college education more affordable and strategies for expanding opportunities for higher education in Maryland. Joined by

University of Maryland Chancellor Brit Kirwin, UMCP President C.D. "Dan" Mote, Secretary of Higher Education James Lyons, and Governor O'Malley took questions from students

and discussed the O'Malley Administration's plans to improve higher education in Maryland.

"This year, we have worked closely with the See Higher Ed., Page A3

Council Member Samuel Dean Joins in 'Revelation 2007' Service Project

District 6 Council Member Leads Students in School Beautification

Courtesy PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

(MITCHELLVILLE, MD) — Prince George's County Council Member Samuel H. Dean (D) of District 6 planted flowers at Tall Oaks

Vocational High School as part of a beautification project there on Saturday, May 5. Council member Dean was joined in the landscaping effort by a former council colleague, Maryland State Senator Douglas Peters.

Partners in the service project. See Revelation, Page A9



PHOTO COURTESY BSUBULLDOGS.COM

(L-R): Former council colleague, MD State Senator Douglas Peters, Council member Samuel H. Dean and Mrs. Donna J. Dean, PR Manager/Schools and Faith Community Liaison.

President is Named for PGCC

Community Invited to Meet Charlene M. Dukes, the Newly Elected Community College President in County



PHOTO COURTESY PGCC

Newly elected President of PGCC, Charlene M. Dukes.

Courtesy PGCC

(LARGO, MD) — John Steinecke, chairman of Prince George's Community College (PGCC) board of trustees, announced Thursday, May 3, that Charlene M. Dukes will become the institution's eighth president. Dukes will ascend to the presidency on July 1.

"Dukes is a talented educator and leader who is passionate about Prince George's Community College and we are pleased that she has accepted this position," said Steinecke,

who led the 20-member Presidential Search Advisory Committee of trustees, faculty, staff, students, and community leaders. "The board of trustees believes that she has the ambition and momentum to move the college successfully forward to its 50th anniversary in 2008 and beyond."

Dukes has served the last 12 years as vice president for Student Services at PGCC. Prior to coming to the college, she served as dean of students at the Allegheny Campus of the See Dukes, Page A9

County Executive Switches Hats, Gives Laurel High School a Government Lesson

150 Students Learn about Government and the Path to Success from County Leader

Courtesy OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

(UPPER MARLBORO, MD) — Standing before 150 Laurel High School students in the theater auditorium, County Executive Jack Johnson stepped into teacher mode to give students a lesson in local, state and federal government.

"You need a good education to be effective in society and to build your future," said Johnson. "There isn't anything you can't do, if you put your mind to it." Johnson began his lesson

FSC Hosts Critical Lenders Forum

Small- and Minority-Owned Business Owners Discover Financial Assistance in FSC, MMG, and Action Capital

By EMILY APATOV
PG Post Staff Writer

(LARGO, MD) — Lacking the resources to infuse capital into that first small-business contract, many small- and minority- owned business owners need financial assistance to perform successfully on a first contract. Small-business owners face tremendous hurdles when seeking out capital mobilization funds because most lenders are categorically opposed to offering lines of credit to untried, lower-budget ventures. In a common case, finding startup

capital is harder still for the underserved small-business owner who comes to the lender's table with a bad credit score after a history of failed, unassisted startups.

Prince George's County Financial Services Corporation (FSC), a certified development corporation, held a Lenders Forum Friday, May 5, to educate small-business owners about the potential for business growth that lies in partnerships with non-traditional lenders.

The FSC and its guests at the First Friday Lenders Forum, Meridian Management See Mobilization, Page A5

Rempert Named PGCCPS Teacher of the Year

UM Grad., Reading Recovery Teacher Has Spent Her Entire 38-Year Career Serving Prince George's County

Courtesy PGCCPS

With a master of arts in early childhood and elementary education from the University of Maryland, Leah Rempert Rempert of Langley Park-McCormick Elementary School has spent her entire 38-year career teaching for Prince George's County Public Schools. For her contributions to the county as a teacher, Rempert was awarded the title of 2007-2008 Prince George's County Teacher of the Year at the Prince George's County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Reception at the Newton White Mansion in Mitchellville, MD, on May 1. Rempert's peers at

Langley Park-McCormick nominated her for the Teacher of the Year Award for her outstanding instructional and leadership abilities and for her efforts to improve instructional programs and to boost student achievement in reading/language arts.

In addition to her role as a reading recovery teacher, Rempert provides parent training sessions in language arts, delivers staff development sessions to her peers, serves on the Faculty Support Team and Faculty Advisory Council, and coordinates her school's Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) program for 140 students. Rempert See Rempert, Page A3

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BSU holds Annual Athletic Banquet, honoring not only the athleticism, but also the academics of its athletes; name of each recipient is listed. A7

Towns and NEIGHBORS

Clinton Conversations

By **NORMA FAZENBAKER**
301.579.6116

This is my favorite time of the year. When the flowers and bushes and trees begin to bloom and show their beautiful colors, it seems like the world is aglow. Going outside with no jacket or sweater is the best part of the season, of course. (Driving is so much easier without a heavy coat.) I hope all of you are enjoying the weather, also.

Another yard sale at St. Paul's Parish has been brought to my attention. The Parish is located on Baden-Westwood road and the sale will take place from 8 a.m. to noon on May 12th. There will be collectible and a bake sale, also, so after you have gone to the Thrift Store Yard Sale at Faith Methodist Church, head on over to St. Paul's. For more information, call 301.290.1332.

On Sunday, May 20, the Chapman State Park Open House will take place from noon to 5 p.m. The Park is located at Mount Aventine on Chapman's Landing Road. There will be a talk on Chapman Potomac 19th century. Fisheries will be on display at 2 p.m. followed by a concert from a children's choir. The Schubert Singers will sing at 3 p.m. and nature walks will take place at 12:15 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. Children's activities and property tours will be ongoing. The event is free of charge. For more information, call 301.753.6754.

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Chapter 1260 of Southern Prince

George's County, will meet on Thursday, May 17, at 1 p.m. at the Oxon Hill Library. A Memorial Service will be held to honor the memory of members who passed away during the past year. Delegates Proctor and Vallario — and, hopefully, our Senate President Mike Miller — will tell us what happened during the last legislative session. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. For more information, call 301.868.0724.

Some suggestions from an attorney about how to keep your personal identifying information safe: Do not sign the back of your credit cards; instead, write "Photo ID Required." Folks are advised to list a work phone number, rather than a home phone number, on personal checks. Be sure you do not have your social security number on your checks. Make sure to have a copy of everything in your wallet in case it is stolen. In the event that your wallet is stolen, be sure to file a police report right away. Then call the three national credit reporting organizations to place a fraud alert on your name. The numbers are: Equifax - 800.525.6285; Experian (formerly TRW) - 888.397.3742.

An Exclusive eWomenNetwork "Accelerated Networking" Luncheon will take place Wednesday, May 16, at River Creek Club in Leesburg, VA. The speaker will be Lisa Marie Barbien, who will present a talk, "The Difference Between Getting By and Getting Ahead." This inspirational session will provide you with new thinking and a clear vision for how

See Clinton, Page A10



PHOTO COURTESY SMUGMUG.COM

Did you know the Eastern Bluebird (pictured above) is Prince George's County bird? You can learn more fun facts and trivia about our county on page A10.

Aquasco-Brandywine

By **RUTH TURNER**
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Prince George's County Homeownership Fair 2007

On Saturday, June 9, there will be a Homeownership Fair at the Prince George's County Sports and Learning Complex located on 8001 Sheriff Road in Landover, MD. Admission is free. The event will showcase over 100 exhibits and displays from home-

builders, certified credit counseling agencies, and others. The event will include home-buyer workshops, a housing policy forum, and home-buyers' assistance programs. Free credit reports will be made available to you throughout the day. For additional information, contact the Office of the Housing Authority of Prince George's County at 301.883.4663.

Historic House Tours

Bilingsley House Museum in

Upper Marlboro offers tours on Sundays from noon - 4 p.m. For more information, call 301.672.0730.

Class Reunion

Surrattsville High School Class of 1985 is trying to locate former classmates for its 25 year reunion. For more information, call 301.372.8986.

Annual Women's Day

Christ UMC Church in Aquasco, MD, will sponsor Spiritual Fellowship

See Aquasco, Page A10

Nation's Most Prestigious Scholarship Program Rewards Glenarden Student

Karmena Diggs from Charles Herbert Flowers HS Awarded \$10,000 for College as A 2007 Regional Coca-Cola Scholar

Courtesy **COCA-COLA SCHOLARS PROGRAM**

(ATLANTA, GA) - Karmena Diggs, an exceptional senior at Charles Herbert Flowers High School in Springdale, has been recognized as one of the country's most outstanding high school seniors by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and has been awarded a \$10,000 Regional Coca-Cola Scholarship for college.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is one of the largest corporate-sponsored achievement scholarship programs of its kind in the United States. The program recognizes a diverse group of extraordinary high school seniors who have demonstrated academic and civic excellence in their schools and communities. In Glenarden, the Foundation is supported by the financial commitment of Capitol Heights Coca-Cola Bottling Company and The Coca-Cola Company.



PHOTO COURTESY COCA-COLA SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Karmena Diggs, senior at Charles Herbert Flowers High School.

"Karmena Diggs has shown a solid commitment to educational excellence, leadership and service to

the school and community," said Sandy Williams, Chairman of the Board of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and President of Corinth Coca-Cola Bottling Works in Corinth, MS. "The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is proud to name Diggs as a 2007 Coca-Cola Regional Scholar."

Diggs joined 249 of America's most impressive high school students who competed for 50 National Scholarships of \$20,000 and 200 Regional scholarships of \$10,000 during the Coca-Cola Scholars Weekend held April 12 - 15 in Atlanta, GA. Scholars were chosen from an applicant pool of more than 87,000 representing approximately 23,000 high schools nationwide. The 2007 Class of Coca-Cola Scholars interviewed with a National Selection Committee representing education, business, government and arts leaders from across the country. The

See Diggs, Page A9

Serving Suitland

By **JANICE A. EUELL**
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DON'T FORGET THE MEETING WITH THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ON THE FUTURE OF THE SUITLAND MANOR COMPLEX TO BE HELD ON MAY 15TH AT 6:30 P.M. AT SUITLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. VERY IMPORTANT!!

The Grand Opening of the Suitland Health and Wellness Center at the Professional Building was a wonderful success. County Executive Jack B. Johnson was there to put his stamp of approval on the myriad of services that will be made available at the Center. The building itself has undergone some amazing transformations from years ago when we first visited the facility in anticipation of something useful being placed there. I offer my congratulations to our community members for showing up to witness this historic event for our community. We were honored to have Olympic Champion Jackie Joyner-Kersey there to endorse healthy living for our residents. Also present were Senator Nathaniel Exum (D-24), Delegates Joanne Benson (D-24) and Melony Griffith (D-25), Gwen Clerkley, representatives from the Department of Health and Terry Lawlah, The Maryland Center MOTA. We look forward to many services and programs being

administered at the facility for the health and well-being of the residents.

The Department of Health, the University of Maryland Baltimore County and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene sponsored a Students Against Starting Smoking (SASS) Youth Conference with approximately 15 middle schools in attendance. There were breakout sessions that included toxic soup, and secondhand smoke. ROJA youth leaders were invited by Dana Moncrief, Program Manager for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's "Teens Rejecting Abusive Smoking Habits" (TRASH) to make a presentation on tobacco education and awareness projects to students at the conference. Rico Blake, Secret Blake and Delano Kornegay were the presenters of the skit about making toxic soup containing some of the 4,000 chemicals contained in cigarettes. They distributed over 100 pamphlets on tobacco use at the conference and all of them did a great job in making their presentations and performing the skits. Congratulations Rico, Secret and Delano.

Lots of great things are happening in Suitland. Come out and find out what's going on. The next meeting of the Suitland Civic Association will be on the third Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the Suitland Water Tower at 4211 Suitland Road.

In and Around Morningside-Skyline

By **MARY MCHALE**
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Base Commander Welcomes Queen Elizabeth to Andrews

In a British Airways Boeing 777, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip flew into Andrews Air Force Base Sunday evening and were greeted by the base commander, Col. Paul R. Ackerley and his wife, Diana. Years ago there might have been a huge crowd, but with security what it is today, there was only a small welcoming party at the foot of the stairs. Behind a fence 50 yards away, nearly one hundred people—mostly military personnel and DOD employees and their families—cheered, waving British flags.

Within minutes the royal couple got into a Cadillac limousine and, led by a squadron of law enforcement agents on motorcycles, headed up Suitland Parkway into Washington, to Blair House across from the White House.

On Monday morning they were officially welcomed in a ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House. Later the two would attend an afternoon garden party at the British Ambassador's residence and a state dinner at the White House. Before flying back to England on Tuesday evening, on Tuesday they visited NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, the Children's Hospital, and the World War II Memorial.

This was the Queen's first visit to the U.S. since 1991. This time it was

the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, the first permanent English colony in the New World, that brought them to America.

Gate Closed

When the Queen visited the nation's capital in 1991, her motorcade probably went through the Main Gate, up Suitland Road to Suitland Parkway.

That would be impossible today because Andrews' Main Gate is not only closed, but it's demolished. The guardhouse has been torn down. A whole new entrance to the base is in the works. New roads, new check-points, and, I think, a new welcome center are being constructed.

The Main Gate—looking very different, I'm sure—is due to open in

See Morningside, Page A10

The New Prince George's Post

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COMMUNITY

Suitland Choir Receives Highest Score at National Competition in New York



PHOTO COURTESY PGCPSS

Suitland HS Concert Choir at the Festival of Gold National Invitational Choral Festival.

Courtesy PGCPSS

(New York, NY) — On April 13, the Suitland High School Visual and Performing Arts Concert Choir participated in the Festival of Gold National Invitational Choral Festival

in New York City and received the highest score of all competing choirs.

The Festival of Gold is reserved for high school choirs that have reached the highest levels of performance at local and state adjudications.

The festival featured nationally recognized adjudicators and clinicians, including Dr. Sigrud Johnson, St. Olaf College; David Stocker, Emeritus Professor and Choral Music at Arizona State University; Dr. Paul Torkleson, Wartburg

College; and Lieutenant Colonel Phillip Waite, coordinator of musical activities for the armed services and commander and conductor of the Heartland of America Band.

Following Suitland's performance, the group enjoyed a personal 30-minute choral workshop and clinic with Dr. Z. Randal Stroope. Dr. Stroope is the director of choral activities at Rowen University in Glassboro, NJ, and is a world-renowned conductor, lecturer, and composer.

Under the direction of Kenneth Boucher, the Suitland Concert Choir has been recognized for its outstanding talent at the national level.

In 2005, the choir traveled to San Francisco to participate in the West Coast Heritage Choral Music Festival where it placed first in the competition. In 2006, the group attended the East Coast Heritage Choral Music Festival in Atlanta, Georgia, and again won first place.

Board of Education, Superintendent Selected for Elite Reform Training

PGCPSS to Receive Leadership Training to Improve Student Achievement

Courtesy PGCPSS

Prince George's County Public School District is one of six districts selected by the Center for Reform of School Systems (CRSS) to participate in Reform Governance in Action (RGA), a comprehensive two-year training program for school boards and superintendents.

In 2005, the Broad Foundation launched the RGA program, training teams of school board members together with their district superintendents. Through the program, the teams participate in training designed to develop and clarify their understanding of the actions needed to operate the school board and to build relationships with the community. The teams then receive on-site support from a consultant for two years.

The goal of the RGA program is to dramatically improve student achievement and eliminate the achievement gap in each participating district by cultivating effective reform leadership. Intensive training using original case studies, review of best practices, and analytical tools is conducted at four off-site training institutes and 10 on-site consulting visits over the course of the

two-year program.

This graduate-level program provides a heavy dose of best practices and inspiration to support local leaders in strategically governing to raise student achievement and close ethnic and income achievement gaps," said Don McAdams, CRSS founder and president.

"We look forward to working together in a program designed to support local leaders in attacking the issues facing our schools and students," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. John E. Deasy. "The stakes are high for children and our communities, and we must continue learning to work together, learning from one another, and learning from best practices in other school districts."

"This is a tremendous professional development opportunity for Board members and the Superintendent," said Board of Education Chair R. Owen Johnson, Jr. "Working together, we will fulfill our commitment to accelerating student achievement in all of our schools."

"Too often, efforts to improve student achievement in large urban school districts stagnate because school boards and superintendents are at odds with

one another," said Eli Broad, founder of the Board Foundation. "This intensive training helps school district leaders grow into highly functional teams ready to apply key lessons learned from major reform efforts in other U.S. cities to improve student achievement back home."

The costs of the RGA program — approximately \$400,000 per school district — are underwritten by the Broad Foundation through a grant to CRSS.

Aldine Independent School District (TX), Dallas Independent School District (TX), Durham Public Schools (NC), Hartford Public Schools (CT), and Providence Public Schools (RI) were also selected from a pool of 12 applicants nationwide. Districts were chosen based on a rigorous review of the quality, unity, and commitment of the school board, the district leadership's focus on improving student achievement, and anticipated leadership stability, among other criteria."

Districts currently participating in the RGA program, which is held in conjunction with the CRSS, include: Charlotte-Mecklenburg, NC; Christina, DE; Duval County, FL; Fresno, CA; Gwinnett County, GA; and, San Antonio, TX.

A Public Service Announcement from The Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning

Free grants are available to homeowners and landlords to make Maryland homes safe and lead-free. Call today about this free funding from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and learn more ways you can protect Maryland's children from lead poisoning. 1-800-370-LEAD.

Rempert Named Teacher of the Year

Rempert from A1

serves the school system at the end of the school day by coordinating after-school and summer ELO and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs as well as writing curriculum frameworks progress guides, and early childhood language programs.

Outside of the school system, Rempert's community involvement activities include fund-raising and sponsoring efforts for YMCA youth summer camps, and working with the

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) as a lifetime member.

With the philosophy, "All children can learn," Rempert has taught many of the most challenging, disadvantaged students in the county how to read. "From being the lowest-scoring school in Region 5, Langley Park-McCormick made Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) for two out of the three past years," said her school's principal, Sandra Jimenez.

"Much of this improvement can be attributed to Leah Rempert's leadership

in improving instruction in reading."

Rempert will go on to compete with representatives from all 24 counties for the title of 2007-2008 Maryland Teacher of the Year, a competition coordinated by MSDE. A committee of her peers will determine the finalists, and the winner of the Maryland Teacher of the Year Award will be announced during a ceremony in the fall.

The winner will represent Maryland in the national Teacher of the Year competition.



PHOTO COURTESY OFFICE OF GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

Students listen to the Governor's discussion on ways to make college education more affordable and strategies for expanding opportunities for higher education in the state.

O'Malley Advances Higher Education

Higher Ed. from A1

General Assembly to make higher education affordable and accessible for more Maryland families," Governor O'Malley said. "By freezing college tuition, improving funding for the University of Maryland, and increasing community college spending by 18%, we are training tomorrow's highly-educated workforce, today."

After a series of prepared remarks from President Mote, Chancellor Kirwan, a representative from Prince George's County's government, Secretary Lyons, and Governor O'Malley, the panelists opened the floor for a half-hour of questions from leaders of student groups at the university. Topics of discussion included keeping education affordable, creating economic opportunities for college graduates, and expanding access to higher education to more minorities and members of under-served populations.

During this year's legislative

session, Governor O'Malley worked with the legislature to pass an increase of \$166 million in general funds for higher education — a 12.6% increase.

The tuition freeze the Governor and the legislature wrote into law last session comes as relief to higher education students in state institutions who have seen a 40% rise in tuition over the last 3 years. The tuition freeze was funded by \$16.2 million in general funds.

Also this legislative session, the Governor and the legislature cooperated to increase community college funding by 18.6 percent to \$31.8 million.

O'Malley also presided over the allocation of a record \$400 million for K-12 school construction, an unprecedented \$5.2 billion in general funds to support K-12 students and improve teacher salaries and pensions, and an increase in aid funding for higher education students.

Renowned Artist Exhibits Work in Accokeek

Photographs on Display through June 15th

Courtesy ACCOKEEK FOUNDATION

The Accokeek Foundation is fortunate to display six large photographs by noted artist and local community leader Jean Thompson in its Education Center. The works are part of a larger show entitled "Back of the Beyond" which appeared at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Old Town Alexandria, VA, earlier this year.

Jean Thompson first studied photography under Ansel Adams. She received an M.F.A. degree from Wright State University. She has worked in a number of artistic media. Her work has been shown in many galleries across the United States and Europe including Cologne, Germany; London,

U.K.; Washington, D.C.; Chicago, IL; Philadelphia, PA. Her work may be seen on a regular basis in her studio at the Torpedo Factory. Thompson is represented in numerous collections including those belonging to McDonald's Corp.; National Rural Electric Cooperative, Assoc.; C&P Telephone (now Verizon); Interstate General Corp.; Henningson, Durham, and Richardson; Resnick, Durham, and Silverman; Wintergreen; American Apparel Assoc.; Paffrath Raiffensen Bank; Triton; Marriott Corp.; Sheraton Hotels; Victoria Park Place; Mitre Corp.

Thompson is included in Who's Who in American Art and Who's Who Women of the World.

ABSOLUTE AUCTION

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COMMENTARY

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S POST

A Community Newspaper for Prince George's County

Marian Wright Edelman Child Watch



We Must Fight for Mental Health Care Too

The Children's Defense Fund is in the midst of a national campaign to convince Congress and the President to enact legislation this year to extend health care coverage of all children in America, including the nine million who currently are uninsured. Children need inoculations against diseases like measles, mumps and rubella, preventive dental care and treatments for chronic illnesses like asthma. They also need prompt treatment for toothaches before they infect other parts of their bodies. Seventh grader Deamonte Driver from Prince George's County, Maryland, died in February from complications after bacteria from an abscessed tooth spread to his brain.

It is also vital that policy makers include mental health care among the expanded benefits guaranteed to all uninsured and underinsured children. I'd like to share the story of a child with serious mental health problems who did not have access to insurance for years. When he finally did receive coverage, it turned his life around.

Lorna Harvey is a self-employed small business owner and single parent from Houston, Texas, who cannot afford private health insurance. Her son Kyle is a nine year-old-boy with bright red hair and a wide smile who suffers from severe Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Lorna came to Washington to participate in CDF's family and faith leaders Witness for Health Care in March to share with others her three-year struggle to obtain treatment for Kyle. She called on her Members of Congress to tear down the obstacles to obtaining care for other children with similar mental health problems.

During the trip to Washington, Kyle got off his medication schedule and Lorna reexperienced the anguish of years past when his ADHD was in full force—hyperactivity, impulsiveness, and distractibility. Kyle also has chronic asthma and gets migraine headaches that require ongoing medical attention. Fighting back tears, Lorna described how their lives were a living torment. The schools Kyle attended were not equipped to test for and identify his health problems. He was failing academically, and his teachers and school officials told her that Kyle had below average intelligence. He was treated like a pariah by classmates and had no friends at school. At one point, Kyle wanted to kill himself.

Lorna couldn't get a medical explanation for her son's disturbing behavior. He had no pediatrician and often went to the emergency room when his asthma and migraines flared up. Three years ago, she learned about the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)

and was able to get Kyle enrolled. With this health coverage, Lorna was able to have Kyle seen by a pediatric specialist at Texas Children's Hospital and the diagnosis of ADHD was made. After several trials, a daily cocktail of anti-psychotic and mood-altering medications to control his hyperactivity as well as other medications was developed to address all of his health problems. The medications cost more than \$700 a month.

This much needed psychiatric care has literally changed Kyle's life. He went to camp last summer. He is now on the A-B honor roll of his school and has become a poster child success story for the Fort Bend County School District.

This progress did not come without setbacks. Kyle's health coverage was arbitrarily cancelled last August because SCHIP administrators couldn't calculate Lorna's income. This created a crisis for Lorna who earns an average of \$2,000 a month and still is unable to afford private insurance. Having to pay for all of Kyle's medications would have been a financial disaster. Fortunately, with the intervention of her State Representative, Charlie Howard, and the Texas office of the Children's Defense Fund, his coverage was reinstated after two days.

This illustrates, however, the precarious position of so many working families. Lorna and her son live just above the poverty level, but Lorna works hard to build her business so she can provide a better life for Kyle. But she is ever mindful of the fact that if she earns just one dollar over the income limit for SCHIP eligibility, he will lose his health coverage. "I want a better life, I want the best treatment and the best medication for my son," she says. "I want the best future for Kyle." She adds that just as the government would not take a hearing aid away from a hearing impaired child, the government should not take psychiatric care from a child who suffers from mental illness.

We all pray that a crisis like the one that visited the Harvey family doesn't touch someone we love. And we all must not forget and speak up for thousands of Katrina's children still waiting for their country to provide them mental health care to heal their post-traumatic stress disorders more than a year and a half after the disastrous hurricane struck Louisiana and Mississippi. We must treat children like Kyle as though they are our own. We must protect them and keep them well. We must press for passage of the All Healthy Children Act (H.R. 1688) that will guarantee health and mental health care for all children and pregnant women in America regardless of the lottery of birth or geography.

To help, you can go to www.childrensdefense.org/healthychild.

Financial Tips - The Best Gift for College Grads

Courtesy Rhena Wallace, GCI Group

Forget about getting your '07 grad a car says Roman McDonald, co-founder and president of MetLife affiliate First Genesis Financial Group and financial planning expert, the most valuable gift a parent can give is a mission statement.

The African American community's median income is at an all time high, according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census; however, savings is at an all time low. Since many African American adults do not learn how to manage money until after college, now is a crucial time for graduates to learn how to shift from a consumer mindset to a savings mindset.

Hence, a mission statement defines your child's goals and aspirations for the long term. Taking the time to sit down with your child and create a mission statement may not have the same effect as buying a car, but it is a gift that will appreciate with time.

Would you be interested in speaking with Roman about the power of a mission statement and other ways in which you can educate your '07 grad to treat money as a resource, rather than a means of consumption? I can be reached via email, rwallace@gcigroup.com, or at 212-537-8014.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



The Counseling Corner

Learning How to Disagree Within A Relationship

By the American Counseling Association

No matter how perfect any romantic relationship seems, there will be times when the two of you disagree. It would be unnatural if conflicts didn't occur. You and your partner are two different people. No matter how much you love each other, you still have different personalities, tastes and backgrounds. Sooner or later, disagreements will occur.

However, relationship disagreements don't have to be problems. In fact, they actually can help strengthen a relationship and the respect each of you has for the other. But for that to happen, it's important to learn to fight fairly and to find effective ways to resolve conflicts.

A starting point is identifying what the source of the disagreement really is. It's not unusual for a couple to forget what originally prompted an argument, or to find that each has a different concept about what really is the issue.

Once you're agreed on why you disagree, it's time to work out the conflict. That doesn't mean a screaming match at bedtime when you're both tired, or stony silence and carefully ignoring the problem and the other person.

Instead, start by finding a time when you're both rested and able to give the problem your

full attention without being interrupted by family, friends or work.

Because your goal is to work out the problem, not destroy the other person, start with some common sense ground rules for arguing fairly. Don't for example, blame the other person or insist that he or she is wrong. Doing so just puts that person in a defensive position and all the more determined to fight to the end.

Instead, take some responsibility for the problem yourself (after all, it's a fifty-fifty chance that you just may be in the wrong). Use positive "I" statements that talk about your feelings and thoughts, rather than "you" statements that have you telling the other person what he or she supposedly feels or thinks.

Most importantly, listen. Rather than just planning your argument, give the other person a chance to talk and explain. Really listen to the feelings and emotions being expressed.

It takes work to fight fairly and resolve conflicts in a relationship, but the result can be a partnership that is stronger, with each person respecting the other more.

The most important thing to remember is that the relationship is what should come first, not winning the argument at any cost.

Teachers...They Maintain the Strength of Our Schools

By Nancy S. Grasmick, State Superintendent

Brick by brick we built our schools, creating monuments of strength in education. But the real strength lies not in the buildings themselves, but in the teachers who go to work there each day, inspiring Maryland students to discover new things and pursue new paths.

American historian Henry Adams famously said, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." Each and every day, Maryland teachers influence 870,000 students. Multiply that number by the generations that follow and you will begin to understand the magnitude of teachers' impact on our children and, ultimately, on our world. National Teacher Appreciation Week this year (May 6-12) gives us the opportunity to express our gratitude to Maryland's 67,000 talented, dedicated teachers and teacher assistants who—more than anyone else—shape our collective future.

Right now, in classrooms across the state, sit the nation's- and the world's- next great writers, inventors, engineers, business leaders, scientists, and artists.

Responsible for all that talent- for discovering, developing, and expanding it- are our teachers. They are vital to keeping students competitive in the global workforce and the U.S. competitive in the international marketplace.

By all accounts, they're doing both. Maryland students posted across-the-board gains on the High School Assessments last year.

For the third consecutive year, all 24 school systems improved their reading and math Maryland Assessment scores. Maryland ranks #1 in the nation in improving Advanced Placement (AP) performance, and is one of just three states in which more than 20 percent of graduating seniors have taken and passed at least one AP exam.

Maryland leads the College Board's Middle States region in SAT scores. And, according to Education Week, the nation's leading education newspaper, children in Maryland have the country's fifth-best chance for adult success.

I applaud our teachers for these tremendous accomplishments and for the profound gifts they give us each day—confident students, eager learners, and hope for the future.

To all Maryland's teachers, I offer a sincere "thank you" for contributing to the strength and success of our schools. Few professionals have the power to affect young people the way teachers do. And fewer still have used that power as prolifically and expertly as Maryland's unparalleled teaching force.

Unquestionably, teachers deserve to be recognized throughout the year, but during National Teacher Appreciation Week, I ask especially that you join me in honoring our teachers- the very people who keep our schools strong!

Letters to the Editor

We Value the Opinions of Our Readers.

Send your letter to:

Editor, Prince George's Post,

15207 Marlboro Pike,

Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

BUSINESS

The Voice of Small Business

By Todd Stottleyer

Simplify the Tax Code

You could hear the sighs of relief as millions of tax returns were dropped at post offices across the land; another tax deadline has come and gone. But at the same time, many taxpayers were left scratching their heads, wondering why filing a return is so hard.

Certainly small-business owners are wondering. According to an NFIB Research Foundation Small Business Poll on Tax Complexity and the IRS, 88 percent of small-employer taxpayers used a tax professional to prepare their most recent federal tax return. For those employers who employ 20 or more people, the number increased to 95 percent. Nearly 27 percent admit that the laws and requirements are just too complex for them to do their own taxes.

The two reasons small-employer taxpayers most frequently cited for using tax professionals were: 1) to assure that they properly comply with tax laws, and 2) the sheer complexity of the law. Only about one in four report that they even try to understand the law. For example:

- 95 percent of small-employer taxpayers think that the depreciation provisions of the tax code apply to them, but just 15 percent think they have a good understanding of depreciation requirements.

- 93 percent think the accrual method of accounting rules apply to them, but just 16 percent think they have a good understanding of the requirements.

Other provisions that small-employer taxpayers most frequently rely on their tax professional to understand for them include the amounts subject to self-employment tax, capital gains or losses on investments, and the Alternative Minimum Tax. The AMT was originally intended to ensure that the extremely wealthy pay at least some tax, but will affect approximately 23.4 million Americans this year.

Of course, every dollar that a small-business owner

has to pay a professional is a dollar that can't be invested in growing the business or providing employees with better pay or benefits. Reforming or repealing the AMT would be a big step Congress could take to keep small-business owners from having to figure their taxes twice. But there are some easy things that Congress can do to help simplify the code and the many forms required for a tax return.

Creating a standard deduction for use of a home office would allow more small businesses to take advantage of the deduction that they're entitled to, but don't claim because it's too hard to calculate under current law. At the same time, simplifying Schedule C to make the form more user-friendly would benefit the self-employed and sole proprietors, as well as encouraging better compliance with the tax laws.

Expanding eligible investments for Section 179 expensing, which allows the deduction to be taken in the same year the expense is recorded, would reduce record-keeping burdens required for depreciation purposes. Similarly, codifying the law allowing small-business owners to use cash-basis accounting rather than accrual basis would greatly reduce record-keeping burdens, since small businesses wouldn't have to track nearly as many transactions.

You may remember that the IRS was forced to change its ways in the mid-90s after a Senate investigation spotlighted numerous cases of taxpayer abuse. Those efforts appear to be paying off, as 53 percent of small-business taxpayers report that their dealings with the IRS were either "generally" or "very" satisfactory. Simplifying the tax code would go a long way towards ensuring that the two sides maintain good relations.

Todd Stottleyer is president and CEO of the National Federation of Independent Business in Washington, D.C.

Cash-Flow Mobilization Funds Now Key Forum Links-Up Borrowers and Lenders for Economic Development

Mobilization from A1

Group (MMG) and Action Capital, reassured new small-business owners that in Prince George's County, doors to contract financing are open to small-businesses with strong business plans and high growth potential, regardless of their financial starting position.

A Mecca for the small-business owner in search of financing, MMG offers a plethora of financing products, from contract financing to equity financing and surety bonding. MMG has a contract with the State Department of Business and Economic Development allowing it to manage funds from the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority program. These funds allow it to make a Contract Financing Program available to Maryland residents who have been denied access to mobilization capital.

MMG does not determine eligibility for assistance solely by comparing the ratio of credit to collateral, a traditional lending criterion; management capacity, cash flow, debt service history, and possible reasons for a troubled credit history are all taken into consideration.

Program for College-Bound Juniors, Seniors

Get a Running Start on Your College Skills

Courtesy UMD

(COLLEGE PARK, MD) — High school juniors and seniors who want to get a "running start" on college can brush up on study skills through the College-Bound Program offered by the Learning Assistance Service of the Counseling Center at the University of Maryland, College Park. The Program features group sessions on time management, note-taking, textbook reading, exam skills, and other skills that are critical to academic success.

Special components of the program include individual appointments with college counselors, use of lab materials, and visits to two lecture classes, the Career Development Center, and McKeldin Library. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn about college life and academic majors directly from college students.

Group sessions for the Summer 2007 College-Bound Program will begin on Monday, June 25. Classes will be held from Monday through Thursday each week from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Classes will end on Thursday, July 26. The fee for the program is \$280.00. There will be an additional charge for parking.

To schedule an intake interview or for more information, contact the Counseling Center's Learning Assistance Service at 301.314.7693.



PHOTO BY EMILY APATOV/PRINCE GEORGE'S POST

Amy Horn, VP, Director of Marketing, Action Capital; Earl R. King, Business Development Executive, Prince George's Financial Services Corporation; Carl Bennett, workshop participant; Lisa Archey, Executive Vice President, Prince George's Financial Services Corporation; Randy Croxton, Senior Vice President, MMG.

tion.

The Contract Financing Program doles out assistance up to \$2 million. Lines of credit under this program accumulate interest at the rate of prime plus 2 percent. The program is restricted to borrowers with contracts backed at least 51 percent in part by existing federal, state, or local government agencies or by a regulated public utility. The loan proceeds can be used to purchase working capital, equipment and payroll.

MMG also guarantees loans provided by other financial institutions. Guarantees on these loans are capped at 80 percent of the principal or \$2 million.

Action Capital, alternatively, occupies a narrow market niche, providing one specialized product: a receivable financing line of credit designed for clients requiring quick approval of loans against work performed when the client has an invoice. While an application for assistance from

MMG can typically take 50 days, borrowers can secure a line of credit through Action Capital in 3 days.

Primarily tasked with managing loans guaranteed by the US Small Business Association (SBA), the FSC currently oversees two SBA loan programs: the SBA 7(a) loan and the SBA 504 loan. Small businesses may use proceeds from the loans to purchase working capital, leasehold agreements and equipment, to purchase real estate, or begin modernization and construction projects.

"We'll do deals that banks may not normally do. The thing that we look for is the impact that the small business will have on Prince George's County in terms of generating jobs, providing a service to the community," said Earl R. King, FSC Business Development Executive.

The FSC is currently working with the Small Business Initiative (SBI) of the Prince George's Economic

Development Corporation (PGEDC) to create a new a contract mobilization funding program that will become available to county residents in the fall. The Capital Mobilization Fund will make contract funding available to graduates of the SBI Contractor's College, a program that educates prospective small-business owners in the techniques of bidding and contracting.

"Once those contractors complete the Contractors College and obtain contracts, they would then be able to have a source of funds to enable them to gradually grow," Archey explained the program. According to Smith, the 14 banks in the FSC network will allow a portion of the funds set aside for SBA 7(a) financing to be used towards the Capital Mobilization Fund. The FSC has received communications from the state indicating the state is interested in providing funds to bolster this program, said Smith and Archey.



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Mother's Day is Just around the Corner; Do You Have Plans Yet?

Annual Mother's Day Tea at Belair Mansion

At the Belair Mansion, located at 12207 Tulip Grove Drive in Bowie, MD, mothers

get special treatment. Celebrate a special lady with tea in a historic setting. Advance reservations and payment are required. For more information, call

Mothers' Day Concert Spectacular

The Annapolis Wind Symphony will hold a concert

at St. Margaret's Church on Mother's Day at 4:00 p.m. The 45-member ensemble comes from a cross section of areas in central Maryland.

The concert will be free, but donations will be taken in support of the Annapolis area Lighthouse Shelter. Childcare is available. The Church can be

found on the corner of St. Margaret's Road at 1601 Pleasant Plains Road. For more information, call 410.974.0200.

World War II Fighter Planes to Appear at Andrews AFB Air Show

Skytypers Will Send Aerial Messages at '07 Joint Service Open House

Courtesy GEICO SKY-TYPERS

(WASHINGTON, D.C.)

— On Armed Forces Day the GEICO Skytypers, a vintage World War II flying squadron will make a special appearance in the State of Maryland at the Joint Service Open House 2007 on May 18 through May 20.

Six of eleven remaining vintage World War II planes will demonstrate low-level precision flying and deliver aerial messages, known as skytyping, 10,000 feet up in the air. The messages can span 120 feet in height, some-

times drawing on for eight miles.

The aircraft flown by the GEICO Skytypers are the venerated North American SNJ-2s that served as the trainer for most of the Allied pilots who flew in World War II. Only fifty SNJ-2s were made.

Also known affectionately as "the pilot maker" by its crews, the SNJ was designed as a transition trainer between basic trainers and first line tactical aircraft.

In 1969, Long Island native Mort Arken, a retired U.S. Army and U.S. Navy pilot with 30 years of service,

acquired six of the world's eleven remaining 1940s SNJ-2 Navy fighter planes commissioned by the USS Intrepid (New York). Deputy squadron commander for this year's show is Larry Arken, who has a distinguished career in commercial aviation. (For more information go to www.geicoskytypers.com)

"Even at eighty-two years of age I experience the same thrill that I did when I flew these historic planes for the first time," said veteran military pilot Mort Arken. "The air shows are a good way for families to enjoy a bit of America's vast aviation histo-

ry and enjoy a real treat when they see what our planes can do in the sky."

During skytyping aerial exhibitions, the pilots fly their aircrafts in a line-abreast formation while a computer in the lead plane sends radio signals to the smoke systems in each plane in the formation, thus creating a customized message in a dot-matrix pattern.

"GEICO is proud to sponsor the Skytypers," said Ted Ward, vice president of marketing. "They represent what every American lives for every day and that is the feeling of patriotic freedom."

Spider-Man 3 'Funny' and Action-Packed

By STEVE RHODES www.InternetReviews.com

In SPIDER-MAN 3, Spidey gets in touch with his inner evil twin, which turns out to be a lot of fun for him and for us. Even if the movie isn't nearly as good as SPIDER-MAN 2, it's not a GODFATHER 3 sort of disaster of a third picture in a series.

But as a wildly expensive popcorn movie, it delivers the goods nicely enough. Best of all, it's quite funny. Tobey Maguire is never better than when he's finally allowed to be mean.

One of the movie's many storylines has a meteorite crashing into earth, leaving behind a substance that turns good men bad. This icky and spidery black goo attaches itself to Peter Parker, a.k.a. Spider-Man, our All-American superhero. When it does, Spider-Man turns into a killer who wants to seek revenge. Later, he'll renounce his devils and learn the true power of forgiveness in a rather sappy yet satisfying ending.

Peter also turns into a real lady killer. He's a player who struts his stuff with pride. By far the film's funniest scene comes when Maguire does an homage to John Travolta's Tony Manero in SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER, as Maguire disco dances down the streets

of New York. Another delicious moment comes as he does a Gene Kelly-type dance number in a club as his date, Gwen Stacy (Bryce Dallas Howard), looks on in amazement. The whole date is intended as a big show-off for his old squeeze, Mary Jane Watson (Kirsten Dunst). This is the movie, however, where Peter wants badly to pop the question to Mary Jane, but circumstances keep conspiring to stop his proposal from happening.

Even though I wished it had been shorter, and hence more focused, I had a good time. I've heard it called the most expensive movie ever made. If that's anywhere near true, they significantly overspent since, although it looks fine, it's certainly no LORD OF THE RINGS.

My son Jeffrey, age 18, gave it *** 1/2, although he didn't like it as much as the second and he thought this one was too predictable. He really liked the action, the story and the multiple villains. He especially like the way they did more with humor. His girlfriend Yasmin, age 17, wanted to give it "five million trillion stars," but I refused to let her go above my scale's maximum of ****. She loved the movie's great twists and turns and the way it scared her. But, most of all, she loved Spider-Man.



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

This third installment of director Sam Raimi's hugely successful SPIDER-MAN series finds the webbed superhero (Tobey Maguire) and his girlfriend, Mary Jane (Kirsten Dunst), embroiled in a love triangle while confronting a new slate of dastardly villains.

SPIDER-MAN 3 runs 2:20. It is rated PG-13 for "sequences of intense action violence" and would be

acceptable for kids around 6 and up.

RATING (0 TO ****): ***

Calendar of Events

May 11 UM Chamber Singers

At the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at the University of MD, College Park, the UM School of Music's elite choral ensemble will present a program of French, English and Polish musical masterpieces. For tickets or for more information, call 301.405.ARTS.

Pick Up Performance Company

David Gordon boils down Shakespeare's four-hour epic into a one-hour performance at the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center! This event is part of the six-month festival, Shakespeare in Washington. More than 20 local, national and international organizations will celebrate the Bard's life and work through performance, exhibits and lectures at venues throughout the Washington, D.C. region. For tickets or for more information, call 301.405.ARTS.

May 12 Marlborough Day

Begin your Saturday at Main Street and Governor Oden Bowie Road in Upper Marlboro with the 31st Annual Marlborough Day parade and festival! The celebration will feature a parade at 10 a.m. and a festival from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. There will be free parking, shuttle busses and admission. This event will be held in the historic town of Upper Marlboro.

There will be plenty of food, musical entertainment, fun shows, arts & crafts, dancers, and rides for the children. Shuttle buses will be available from the upper level of the Equestrian Center Parking Lot located at Route 301 & Route 4. Handicapped parking is located across from the 7-11 (in-town). For more information, call 301.952.9575.

Children's Day at National Colonial Farm,

Children and their families are invited to step back in time for a celebration of colonial life. At the National Colonial Farm located at 3400 Bryan Point Road in Accokeek, participate in 18th century games, hands-on activities, observe a cooking demonstration, blacksmithing, sheep shearing, and mule working the farmstead. For more information, call 301.283.2113.

121st Anniversary Celebration of the City of Hyattsville

A parade from Hyattsville Middle School at 10 a.m. will be followed by a

festival at Magruder Park where there will be live entertainment, train rides around the park, games and refreshments.

The festival will also see the opening of the Hyattsville Artists' market. Expect to find original, locally produced artwork for sale at the celebration.

Laurel Main Street Festival

The City of Laurel has also chosen May 12 as the date for their main street festival. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. the streets will be lined with over 350 vendors. The event, sponsored by the Laurel Board of Trade, will feature artisans, food, and live entertainment.

May 12-13 The 3rd Annual Greenbelt Green Man Festival

Featuring films, vendors, music and entertainment with a focus on environmental awareness. The event will be held at Roosevelt Center in Historic Greenbelt.

Maryland Saddle Association Horse Show

Get to see horses and jockeys at the regional hunter/jumper horse show in the outdoor rings of the Prince George's Equestrian Center on Saturday and Sunday. The Center is located at 14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, in Upper Marlboro.

Admission for spectators is free! For more information, call 301.952.7999.

Friends House Annual Spring Concerts

Friends House will present its Annual Spring Concerts on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Sandy Spring Friends Meeting House located at 17801 Meeting House Road in Sandy Spring, MD, and on Sunday at 4 p.m. at the Friends House Retirement Community located at 17340 Quaker Lane, also in Sandy Spring. Admission is free. For more information, call 301.384.8663.

May 18-20 St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church's Annual Spring Festival.

Located at 7101 Cipriano Rd. in Lanham, MD, St. Theodore Greek Orthodox Church is holding its annual spring festival from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Friday; noon - 9 p.m. on Saturday; noon - 9 p.m. on Sunday. Enjoy your favorite Greek cuisine with live music, dancing, crafts, wine, and more! The event will be held, rain or shine. Free admission and parking. For details call 301.552.3540.

Volunteer with the American Cancer Society

We need Road to Recovery volunteer drivers for both Prince George's County and Washington, D.C.

Road to Recovery provides transportation for cancer patients to and from related medical/treatment appoint-

ments. Rides are provided by volunteer drivers who donate their time and the use of their personal vehicles.

This program is offered to cancer patients who have no means of transportation and/or who are too ill to drive

themselves. It offers assistance to patients who might otherwise not be able to keep their critical treatment appointments.

Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older, must possess a valid & cur-

rent driver's license and a serviceable car with seatbelts and adequate liability insurance.

Please contact Christine at 202.483.2600 (ext. 124) to learn more about this volunteer opportunity.

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SPORTS

Prince George's Police Dept. Participates with Special Olympics

From Over 5,000 Annual Attendees, 100 Participants Join In on the Field Events

Courtesy PGPD

(LANDOVER, MD) — The Prince George's County Police Department's Command Staff participated in Prince George's County Special Olympics at the Prince

George's County Sports and Learning Complex in Landover, Maryland, on Wednesday, May 2.

PGPD has been an active participant in the Special Olympics for several years. Of the department's involvement,

Chief Melvin C. High stated, "We continue to contribute financially and in terms of our personal involvement, because events like these help us build community and help us build strengthen our relationships with citizens and residents."

Over 5,000 people attended the annual event, with 100 active participants participating in the various field events. The athletes competed in various track and field events, including wheelchair races, softball throw competitions, obstacle course

events, and high jump competitions. "This is another opportunity for us to give back to the community. We look forward to it every year; it's exciting for the young athletes and it's exciting for us," said Assistant Commander of the Youth &

Family Services Captain Rex Barrett.

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for citizens with disabilities.

Bowie State's Athletes Awarded for Athletics, Academics

Courtesy BSU SPORTS INFORMATION

(BOWIE, MD) — The Bowie State University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics concluded its 2006 - 2007 athletic year with its 7th Annual Awards Banquet at Florian Hall. Athletic as well as academic awards were presented to members of each of Bowie State's athletic teams.

Highlights of the evening included the presentation of sixty-seven student-athletes with a 3.0 or better grade point average for the 2006 Fall Semester, the 2006-2007 Female and Male Student-Athletes of the Year (Tiffany Toney and Gil Goodrich) and Department of Athletics Volunteer of the Year (Robert Batton). Following is a full list of awards presented at the event:

STUDENT-ATHLETE HONOR ROLL (3.0 or Better - Fall 2006)

(Football) Biniam Abebe,

Julius Askins, Cheston Boyd, Jason Braithwaite, Devin Burton, Dwayne Frost, Anthony Howe, Jerrick Jeffreys, Peter Mensah, Joshua Miller, Demarcus Reeves, Seth Rhoades, Terrence Stafford, Sherman White, Jamaal Wright and Durrell York ... (Men's Track & Field) Melvin Johnson, Jason Linnear, Damien Montgomery, Walter Morton, Kenneth Roach, Ramon Valentine and Eric Wright ... (Men's Basketball) Aaron Hutchinson and Corey Scott ... (Softball) Tricia Corbin, Heather Enders, Virginia Hockey, Christina Rzepecki, Tiffany Toney, Stephanie Warejko, Jillian Willey and Randi Willey... (Women's Volleyball) Kendra Harris, and Renee Woodhead ... (Women's Basketball) Krystle Earle, Tyra Lusby and Bethany Sloat ... (Women's Track & Field) Marthe Amon (4.0), Phylcia Buie, Jennifer Geter, Rhea Godsey, Vanesha Jackson, Yolande Nix, DaMara

Parrish, Elise Perkins, Brittany Smith and Trudi-Ann Thompson ... (Women's Bowling) Janine Canlas (4.0), Victoria Hosgood, Jessica Sites, Brittany Stewart, Kelly Underwood and Cassie Williams ... (Women's Tennis) Angelica Barrett, Janelle Brown-Niles, Danielle Davis (4.0), Annette Johnson, Erica Smith and Samantha Greene and (Cheerleaders) Nashira Betton, Brittany Brooks, Courtney Halsey, David Hooker, Abrelle Jenkins, Jhatia McKnight and Kendra Simmons.

CHEERLEADERS

Most Improved - Brittany Brooks
Most Valuable - Abrelle Jenkins

Most Spirited - Candice Burgess

FOOTBALL

Offensive Player of the Year - Lamar Manigo

Defensive Player of the Year - Durrell York

Most Valuable Player - Nathaniel Queen

Nathaniel Queen

VOLLEYBALL

Offensive Threat - Tiffany Toney

Most Improved - Breau Garner

Defensive Threat - Alicia Williams-Chase

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Best All-Around Player - Sherika Thomas

Most Valuable Player - Markeya Watson

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Most Dedicated Player - Tyronne Beale

Most Improved - Joshua Johnson

Most Valuable Player - Gil Goodrich

Daktronics Division II All-American (First Team) - Gil Goodrich

CROSS COUNTRY

Women's Most Improved - Sarah Clay

Men's Most Improved - Walter Morton

Women's Charles "Pop" Williams Award - James Cobb

Men's Charles "Pop" Williams Award - Kenneth Roach

Award - Damien Montgomery

Women's Most Valuable Runner - Phylcia Buie

Men's Most Valuable Runner - Damone Bowman

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Women's Most Improved - Phylcia Buie

Women's Charles "Pop" Williams Award - Kimberly Bolden

Women's Most Valuable Runner - Jennifer Geter

Men's Most Improved - Sean Johnson

Men's Charles "Pop" Williams Award - Bryon Lewis

Most Valuable - Aaron Johnson

OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Women's Most Improved - Elise Perkins

Women's Charles "Pop" Williams Award - Brittany Brady

Women's Most Valuable Runner - DaMara Parrish

Men's Most Improved - Melvin Johnson

Men's Charles "Pop" Williams Award - Kenneth Roach

Men's Most Valuable - Joel Lavela

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Leadership Award - Jessica Bond

Most Improved Player - Angelica Barrett

Most Valuable Player - Danielle Davis

WOMEN'S BOWLING

Most Valuable Player - Cassie Williams

Most Valuable Player - Janine Canlas

Most Valuable Player - Kelly Underwood

SOFTBALL

Offensive Player of the Year - Erin Gray

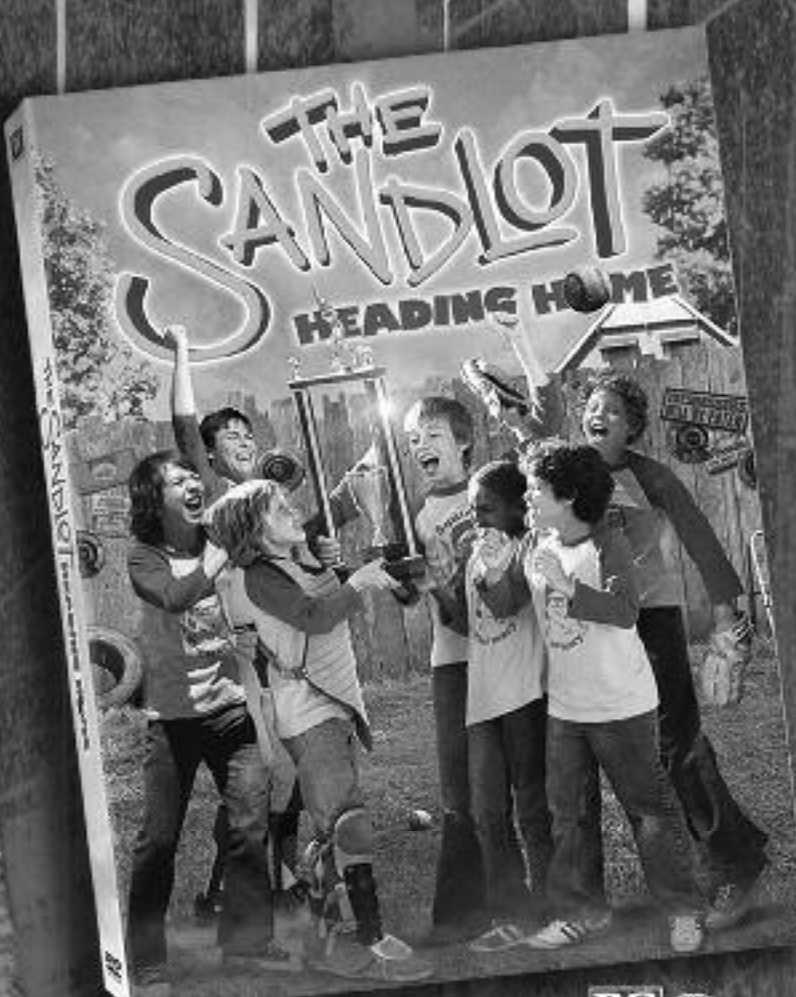
Defensive Player of the Year - Heather Enders

Most Valuable Player - Tiffany Toney

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

Women's Strength & Conditioning Athlete of the Year - DaMara Parrish

Men's Strength & Conditioning Athlete of the Year - Brandon Clarke



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 James E. Jordan, Jr., Pastor
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 Riverdale, MD 20737
 301-277-2020
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Board of Education Appointee Named President of PGCC

Dukes, from A1

Community College of Allegheny County for two years. She holds a bachelor's degree in English education from Indiana University and a master's and doctoral degrees in administrative and policy studies with an emphasis in higher education from the University of Pittsburgh.

Dukes' leadership and interest in educational excellence have involved her in a number of professional and community organizations. She is a member of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, the Council of Law in Higher Education, the

Maryland Network, the local branch of the NAACP, and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Additionally, she has served as a founder of the Community College Student Development Leadership Institute, and continues in her service as an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges, and was recently appointed to the Maryland State Board of Education by Governor Martin O'Malley.

The board's selection of Dukes marks the culmination of a seven-month, nationwide search that began shortly after Ronald A. Williams, president of the college since 1999,

announced his resignation.

College students, faculty, staff, and the general public are invited to the Largo campus to meet the new president on Thursday, May 10 at 11 a.m. in the Queen Anne Fine Arts building at the college.

Prince George's Community College is a comprehensive, public, post-secondary institution that provides high quality academic instruction, workforce development and continuing education to the citizens of Prince George's County and surrounding areas. The college awards associate's degrees, letters of recognition and program certificates.

Letters to the editor:
We Welcome Letters to the editor. Send yours to Editor, Prince George's Post, 15207 Marlboro Pike



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Council Member

Dean Takes Part in HS Project

Revelation from A1

ject included owner of Artistic Landscaping Pat Shanihan, Tall Oaks Principal Dr. Larry McRae, Tall Oaks High School students, and youth representatives from the Agape International Service Project, as part of the "Revelation 2007" youth conference in Tyson's Corner, VA, this weekend planned by the Los Angeles-based Agape International Spiritual Center. The Agape International Spiritual Center, the group organizing the event, is headed by Reverend Dr. Michael Bernard Beckwith, recently featured in the book and movie *The Secret* and on the *Oprah Winfrey Show*. Artistic Landscaping led the group in the beautification project as they planted trees and flowers and added mulch to the school grounds.

Tall Oaks Vocational High School is among 23 county schools where Council Member Dean has initiated partnerships with stakeholders to enhance students' educational experience.

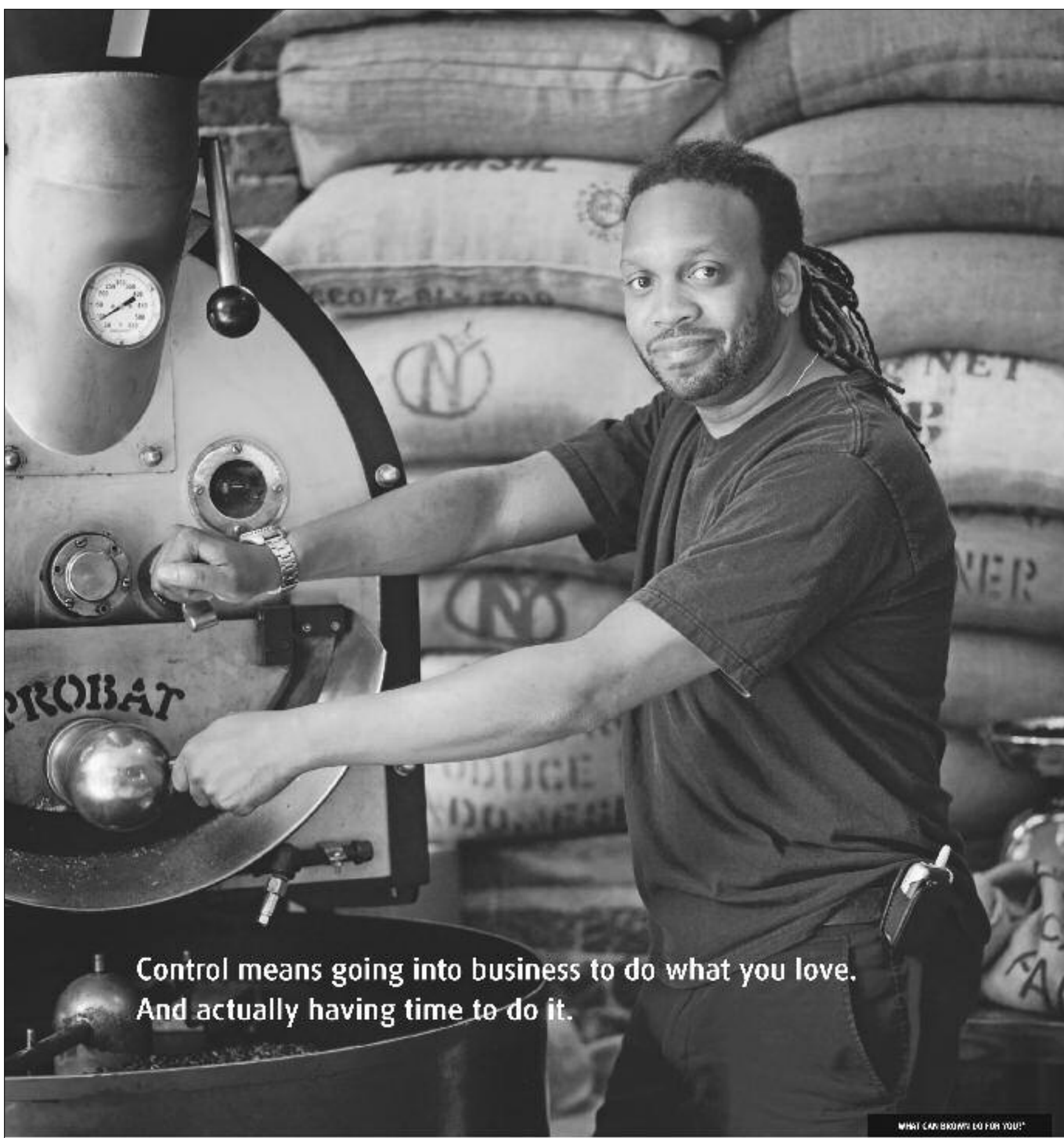
Karmena Diggs is Rewarded for Her Excellence in School

Diggs from A2

Committee evaluated the scholars on their academic achievements, school and community leadership, and their desire to succeed.

During the Scholars Weekend, the 2007 class was also recognized at a banquet held in their honor. During the Scholars Weekend, the students participated in leadership seminars, participated in a community service project, toured CNN, the Georgia Aquarium, the Martin Luther King Jr. Center and attended an Atlanta Braves game.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Program was created in 1986 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Coca-Cola and to establish a legacy for the education of tomorrow's leaders through college scholarships. Including the 2007 Class of Coca-Cola Scholars, the Foundation has now awarded more than 3,750 Coca-Cola Scholars with a total of \$32 million in scholarship awards.



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A Few Fun Facts and Trivia about Gorgeous Prince George's

Courtesy **GOPRINCEGE-ORGESCOUNTY.COM**

Prince George's County has over 300 years of fascinating history, significant "first," and unique tales. These Fun Facts are your introduction to interesting stuff about Prince George's County.

WHAT'S IN A NAME: Prince George's County was named for Prince George of Denmark. He was the husband of Queen Anne of England (1702-1714).

A STAR IS BORN: Prince George's County was officially founded on April 23, 1696.

COUNTY FLAG: On August 17, 1695, Prince George's County was granted colors for horse and foot soldiers, and a County flag consisting of St. George's Cross on a white field. The county seal in the flag's upper left quadrant did not become an official part of the flag until 1963.

COUNTY SEAL: The County Seal consist of a coat of arms symbolizing Queen Anne, France & England in the first and forth quarters; Scotland in the second quarter and Ireland in the third quarter. It was designed in 1696.

COUNTY SEAT: In 1706, the town of Marlborough was founded and it became the County seat in 1721. The name and spelling were changed to "Upper Marlboro" around 1793.

COUNTY SONG: "Hail Prince George's"

COUNTY MOTTO: "Semper Eadem" which means "Ever the Same"

COUNTY BIRD: Eastern Bluebird

COUNTY FLOWER: Daffodil

COUNTY TREE: Bradford Pear Tree

COUNTY SHRUB: Glenn Dale Azaleas

COUNTY HERB: Beebalm

AT ITS PEAK: The highest elevation in Prince George's County is 443 feet at Riding Stable Road in Laurel, near the Montgomery County Line; 1.2 miles NW of the junction of I-95 and MD Route 198..

BOMBS AWAY: The first testing of a bomb dropping from an airplane occurred in 1911 at the College Park Airfield (Airport).

TURTLE MANIA: The Diamondback Terrapin (turtle) was made the State reptile and official mascot of Prince George's County's University of Maryland College Park in 1994.

RAPID-FIRE AIR DEFENSE: The first testing of a machine gun from an airplane occurred in 1912 at the College Park Airfield (Airport).

SCANDAL, WATERGATE & NIXON TAPES: The National Archives at College Park is best known as the current home of former President Richard Nixon's infamous Watergate

tapes. This state-of-the-art facility houses an extensive collection of important and historical documents, tapes and film.

LADIES FIRST: The first woman passenger to fly in an airplane occurred in 1909 at the College Park Airfield (Airport).

THE PRESIDENT'S AIRPORT: Since 1961, Andrews Air Force Base (in Prince George's County) has been home of the official presidential aircraft "Air Force One." It is also the main port of entry for foreign military and government officials en route to Washington and the United States.

WE'RE HIGH ON EDUCATION: Prince George's County has a 2-year college (Prince George's Community College) and five 4-year colleges/universities (including the University of Maryland and Bowie State University).

LAND AS FAR AS YOU CAN SEE: The land area of Prince George's County is 495.5 square miles.

BIGGER THAN A BREAD-BOX: If Prince George's County were a city, it would be the 13th largest city in the United States. That's larger than San Francisco, Atlanta or Boston.

STATELY APPEAL: If Prince George's County were a state, it would be more populated than Vermont, North Dakota, South Dakota, Delaware, Wyoming or

Alaska.

FIRST COMMUNICATION: Prince George's County is the site of Samuel Morse's first experimental telegraph message and the country's first telegraph line.

FIRST IN POSTAL SERVICE: Prince George's County is the site of the country's first U.S. Postal Air Mail Service.

FIRST IN FLIGHT: Prince George's County was the home of the nation's first African American owned and operated airport. The Columbia Air Center was established in 1941 by John W. Greene.

HOME TO AN HISTORIC AIRPORT: Prince George's County is the home to the world's oldest continuously operating airport, College Park Airport. The Wright Brothers taught flying lessons here in 1909.

ARMY'S FIRST FLYING SCHOOL: Prince George's County was home to the first Army Aviation School, established at College Park Airfield (Airport) in 1911 with five planes and four hangars.

GODDARD CENTER TAKES FLIGHT: In 1959, the Goddard Space Flight Center was established as NASA's first space flight center.

MOST CHALLENGING MISSION: Prince George's County was the base for one of the most challenging missions ever conducted by NASA. In

December 1993, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center managed the highly successful first servicing mission of the Hubble Space Telescope.

CLEAN AS A WHISTLE: The world's largest clean room is in Prince George's County at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. The Hubble Clean Room is an 86,000 square-foot (7989.4 square-meter) building used to integrate and test space equipment and hardware. How clean is it? 1,000 times cleaner than a hospital operating room.

THE NATION'S FIRST CHOPPER FLIGHT: The Nation's first recognized, controlled helicopter flight occurred in Prince George's County. It happened in a demonstration to the Navy in 1924 at College Park Airfield (Airport).

AT OUR BORDER: Prince George's County is bordered by Washington, DC, Montgomery County, Howard County, Anne Arundel County, Calvert County, Charles County and Northern Virginia just across the Potomac River.

LAND OF DINOSAURS: The official Maryland State Dinosaur is the Astrodon Johnstoni. It lived between 130 million and 95 million years ago. Teeth from the Astrodon Johnstoni were first discovered in Prince George's County in 1858.

BIRTH OF WASHINGTON,

D.C.: In 1791, Prince George's County provided land to create the greater part of our Nation's Capital, Washington, D.C.

CELL PHONE FIRST: Prince George's County was home to the world's first independent cellular phone system, Cellular One.

THE BIGGEST STADIUM IN THE NFL: Landover's FedExField, home of the Washington Redskins football team, is the largest capacity stadium in the National Football League. It can seat over 93,000 fans.

DOWN WITH THE SHIP: During the War of 1812, Commodore Joshua Barney sank his flotilla at Bladensburg rather than have it captured by the British as they stormed the capitol.

FLIGHT OF AN ASSASSIN LEADS TO FIRST EXECUTION OF A WOMAN: Built in 1852, the Surratt House in Clinton was a farm house, tavern, hostelry, post office, and polling place. It was also a Confederate safehouse. On April 14, 1865, President Lincoln's assassin, John Wilkes Booth, stopped at Surratt on his flight out of Washington, DC. As a result, Mary Surratt was convicted in a military court of conspiracy to assassinate the President. On July 7, 1865, she became the first woman to be executed by the federal government.

Morningside-Skyline

Morningside from A2

August.
He Turned a Schoolhouse Into a Home

Alfred L. Abbott, who had been living with his daughter, Regina, in Morningside, passed away on April 20th of this year. He was 78 years old. A native of West Virginia, Mr. Abbott later lived in Capitol Heights and then in Upper Marlboro, where he converted what was the first Prince George's County public school into a three-bedroom home for his family. Everything about the school was gone except for the original pot-bellied wood stove that he continued to use. The home was torn down about four years ago.

Mr. Abbott was a painter by trade. He loved horseracing and didn't like it when someone parked in his "assigned" parking place at Rosecroft. And he loved the Dallas Cowboys. A Cowboys' throw-blanket was used to cover his casket. The blanket was later buried with him. He loved to garden, and at heart he was always a farm boy.

His wife Linda, whom he married in 1968, died in 1993. Alfred L. Abbott was the father of Regina Foster, Gary Abbott, Alfred Abbott, and the late Lawrence "Eddie" Abbott who died in January of this year.

Mr. Abbott was the grandfather of 11 and the father-in-law of Terry Foster, Leslie Abbott and Carly Abbott. Services were held at Lee's with the burial at Resurrection Cemetery.

Flea Markets

The Skyline Citizens Association is hosting a Flea Market at the Morningside Fire House on May 19 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tables cost \$10 to reserve. To reserve a table, call Suzanne at 240.838.6412, or Yolanda at 301.516.9579 or at 703.412.4742. Some of the proceeds will benefit the Morningside Volunteer Fire Department.

A Community Flea Market will be held on May 19 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Tucker Road Community Center located on 1771 Tucker Road. Come and buy a table for \$10. For more information, call 301.248.4404.

Delegate Braveboy Speaks to Skyline Citizens

The Skyline Citizens meet Wednesday, May 16, at 7 p.m. at Skyline Elementary School (instead of their usual venue, the firehouse). Aisha N. Braveboy, our newest State Delegate, will be guest speaker and we hope for a good turnout to welcome her.

We have asked her to address the issue of youth and their problems, including the courts that often turn them

right back out on the street after they're arrested for car theft and other crimes. We will also elect officers for the upcoming year. On the slate are Stan Homes, president; Yolanda Dooley, 1st vice president; Kenia Spivey, 2nd vice president; Chester Lanehart, treasurer; Linda Barnes-Clark, recording secretary; and Suzanne Kenney, administrative assistant.

Morningside, District Heights Elections

The new mayor and council members will be sworn in at the next meeting of the Morningside Town Council on May 15 at 8 p.m. at the Morningside Town Hall.

District Heights held an election at the E. Michael Roll Municipal Building on Monday to elect two Commissioners, one each from Wards I and II. Candidates from Ward I were incumbent Edith R. Robbins-Worthy, Jack C. Sims and Carroll F. Thomas. From Ward II, incumbent Eddie L. Martin.

I'll list the winners next week.

May they rest in peace

Jacqueline Innamorato, 85, longtime resident of Oxon Hill, died April 3. A native of Manchester, N.H., she moved to Washington as a child, graduated from Eastern High in 1939, worked for the Selective Service Administration and enlisted in the Navy. She served at Norfolk through the end of WWII. She married Ernest O'Bryhim, a Marine killed in action in the Pacific in 1945. In 1948 she married Daniel E. Innamorato and in 1959 moved to Prince George's. She was a Brown troop leader, substitute teacher at Panorama Elementary, and member of the Greater

Southeast Hospital Auxiliary, St. Barnabas Episcopal Church and, later, Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church. Her husband died in 2006. Survivors include three children, Jeannette Innamorato-Episcopo, Daniel A. Innamorato, and Marian N. Scible; and a sister, Olive Panzera.

Charles Wendell Curtis, 82, the man who brought the 19?-foot-high mahogany chair to Anacostia in 1959, died in March. The chair, in front of Curtis Bros. Furniture, became a popular landmark. Recently it was taken down, rebuilt, and replaced at V and Martin Luther King Ave. SE. A Washington native, Charles Curtis graduated from Anacostia High School in 1942, was a Army pilot in WWII, graduated from the U. of Maryland, attended Georgetown law school, and became president of Curtis Bros. He lived in Brandywine for 62 years. Survivors include his wife Hilda; six children; two stepchildren; a sister; 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren..

Milestones

Happy birthday to Shirley Eppard and Elijah Thomas, May 10; Virginia Stine, May 11; Kylee Dameron, May 12; Henrietta Bookhart, Ted Harris and Micheal White, May 13; Lorena McCord, May 14; Helen Fadness, May 15; Fr. Charles McCann, Kenneth Darcey, Tim Cordero and Kitty Marshall, May 16.

Congratulations to Charles and Laura Patterson on their 62nd anniversary. They were married at Holy Name Church in Washington on May 11, 1945. Happy anniversary also to Donna and Wayne Anderson on May 14.

Aquasco-Brandywine

Aquasco from A2

Worship Service on Friday, May 18 at 7 p.m. The Guest Speaker will be Reverend Denise Norfleet-Walker, Pastor of St. Paul UMC in Baltimore and in Upper Marlboro.

Women's Day Celebration

Women's Day Celebration will be held on Sunday, May 20, at 9:45 a.m. at Grace United Methodist Church in Ft. Washington, MD. The service will be delivered by Reverend Dr. Diana L. Parker, associate pastor. Women's Day chair persons will be Sisters

Deborah Proctor & Terry Windsor. Won't you join the Women of Christ in fellowship and praise the Lord as they celebrate their special day? It would be an honor to have all of you come and fellowship with us.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed at the Maryland State Department of Education Division of Rehabilitation to help with clerical duties in its Lanham, MD, office.

For more information, call 301.306.3600.

Clinton Conversations

Clinton from A2

you can achieve your goals on your own terms. Lisa is currently a Senior Financial Advisor at Ameriprise Financial, where her primary focus is working with clients to design personal financial plans. This strategy helps women become more confident. If you are interested in this particular session, please call 703.450.1687.

In observance of National Police Week, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund presents the Nineteenth Annual Candlelight Vigil on Sunday, May 13, at 8 p.m.

Stop by the Visitors Center at 605 E Street, NW, while you are in the city. On Saturday at 7p.m. the 14th Annual TOP COPS awards Ceremony of the National Association of Police Organizations will go off with a bang! For more information, call 202.842.4420.

Summer is on its way and here are some ideas from Grit magazine to help you stay safe around your lawn and garden equipment: Be sure you know

how to operate the equipment. Dress appropriately for the job. Before starting, walk around the area to remove any objects like sticks, glass, metal, wire or stones that could cause injury or damage equipment. Never take a child for a ride on a garden tractor or riding mower. Keep children indoors and supervised at all times when outdoor power equipment is being operated. Never assume children will remain where you last saw them. Never work with electric power tools in wet or damp conditions. Be sure extension cords are in good condition. Before making adjustments or clearing jams near moving parts, unplug everything. Be sure that power tools are turned off and made inoperable if they must be left unattended. Never fill gas tanks while machinery is operating. Lastly, never smoke or use any sort of flame around gasoline. I hate to even write that last one, since I know that my readers are smarter than that, anyway.

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